

John G. Brown 7 May

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MANAGERS

OF THE

Apprentices' Library Company

OF

PHILADELPHIA.

WITH AN APPENDIX.

Read at a meeting of the Company, held at their Rooms, on the 12th of
March, 1838, and published by their order.

PHILADELPHIA :

1838.

Joseph & William Kite, Printers

R E P O R T
OF THE
APPRENTICES' LIBRARY COMPANY.



To "The Apprentices' Library Company of Philadelphia."

THE Board of Managers, upon retiring from their official station, in accordance with established usage, submit the following report of their proceedings :

Soon after their election the Managers met, and organised themselves by the choice of officers, and adopted rules for their own government, and for the government of the library. The usual standing committees were appointed ; and the members divided themselves into "committees of attendance" for each month of the year.

By the minutes of the committees of attendance, which have been produced at the meetings of the board, it appears, that the deportment of the boys generally, has been orderly.

The Library now consists of upwards of *Ten Thousand volumes*, comprising a large number of

standard and useful works on the Sciences, Mechanic Arts, Agriculture, and general literature ; and great care has been taken to select those which would afford valuable information, and to exclude such as were likely to be either injurious or useless.

The Library is kept open four evenings of each week, and has been used during the past year by an average number of about 760 boys. From the last report it appears that 985 books were loaned out. Within the year, 350 volumes have been purchased and placed upon the shelves ; and 22 new members of the company have been elected.

The legacy of One Thousand Dollars, bequeathed by our late fellow-citizen, Dr. Jonas Preston, has been received, and the greater part thereof invested in the stock of the Schuylkill Navigation Company.

Application has been made to the executors of the late Dr. Blenen, for a part of the legacy, bequeathed to them for distribution amongst the charitable and beneficial societies of Philadelphia ; and we entertain a hope that some addition to our limited income will be derived from this source.

The Treasurer's report, herewith presented, will show the state of the funds ; and it will thence be

perceived, that the company has not yet the means to procure a desirable and permanent location for the Library, which has long been a favorite object with the Managers.

The last edition of the catalogue being nearly exhausted, a committee of the board have been industriously occupied in arranging one upon an improved plan, three thousand copies of which have been ordered to be printed. These will be furnished to applicants for books at a price sufficient to defray the expenses of publication.

At the last annual meeting, our esteemed fellow-member, Frederick W. Mayer was elected secretary to the company, and, ex-officio, a member of the Board of Managers: it has now become our mournful duty to announce that in the inscrutable wisdom of Providence, he has been removed by death from amongst us. We murmur not at this dispensation, but, in the remembrance of his urbanity and gentlemanly deportment, of his superior mental endowments, and of his zealous desire to promote the interests of the Institution, we feel sensibly that we have thus been deprived of the important aid of an estimable associate.

Eighteen years have now transpired since the organization of the company—its benefits have

been conferred upon thousands, silently and unostentatiously. Many of these are indebted mainly to your Library for the acquisition of knowledge which will be valuable through life; and, although we believe, that with adequate means at its disposal, the company might have been more extensively useful, and hope those means will not in future be withheld by a liberal and enlightened public, yet we think the present condition of the company will justify a mutual congratulation of its members, and that a retrospect of the past affords encouragement for the future.

Signed by direction of the Board,

JOHN BOUVIER, *Chairman.*

BENJ'N E. VALENTINE, *Secretary.*

Philadelphia, 3d Month, (March,) 1st, 1838.

OFFICERS
OF
APPRENTICES' LIBRARY COMPANY,
ELECTED 12TH MARCH, 1838.



President, HENRY TROTH.
Vice-President, PHILIP GARRETT.
Secretary, JAMES J. BARCLAY.
Treasurer, SAMUEL SELLERS.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

Townsend Sharpless,	William R Maxfield
Isaac Barton,	John C. Cresson,
Joseph M. Truman,	William Kite,
Samuel Mason, Jr.	George W. Gill,
Joseph H. Smith,	Samuel D. Breed,
Frederick Fraley,	Robert Pearsall,
Joseph Cresson,	Peter Wright,
Thomas Ridgway,	David H. White,
John Bouvier,	Thomas M'Collin,
Isaac Lloyd, Jr.	George A. Graham,
John Cooper,	Joseph Hutchinson,
Benjamin E. Valentine,	Enoch P. Walker.

John Lynas Smith, *Librarian*.
Jacob L. Smith, } *Assistant Librarians*.
James Barry, }

The Library is open on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, from the 1st of March to 1st September from half past six to half past nine, P. M. ; and from 1st of September to 1st March, from six to nine, P. M.